A 2-year post-doctoral position available in M Coulpier's team (Equine Zoonoses & Neurovirology - ZEN) in UMR Virology, Maisons-Alfort (Paris suburbs).

Our unit is part of INRAE, Anses and Enva and is located on the Anses-Veterinary School campus in Maisons-Alfort. It studies emerging viruses important for animal and human health. Our team is more particularly dedicated to the study of neurotropic viruses (mainly Flavivirus and Alphavirus).

The project has received funding from the DIM1Health (Ile de France). It aims to identify broad-spectrum antiviral molecules for the treatment of viral encephalitis in humans. Main objectives are to 1/ screen a bank of cyclophylin inhibitors using pathological models of brain infection (human neural cells infected by ZIKV, TBEV, EEEV and potentially Sars-Cov2), 2/ select broad-spectrum antiviral molecules, 3/ validate their efficiency on human 3D cerebral organoids and 4/ unravel their mechanisms of action. The project is developed in tight collaboration with Dr A Ahmed-Belkacem (INSERM U955, Créteil) and Dr B Pain (U1208 INSERM, USC1361 INRAE, Lyon) as well as with the imaging platform at Pasteur Institute (Dr N Aulner/ Dr A Danckaert).

Applicants for this position should have strong knowledge and expertise in virology and host-virus interactions and experience in cellular biology, imaging/microscopy and histological techniques. Experience in stem cell culture and organoids would be an advantage.

Highly self-motivated, flexible, curious and enthusiastic candidates are highly encouraged to apply. The position is available starting as soon as possible. Salary will be according to INRAE’s salary grid, depending on experience.

Please send a cover letter describing past research accomplishments/training and future research interests, a CV, including publications list and 2 reference letters to muriel.coulpier@vet-alfort.fr, hakim.ahmed-belkacem@inserm.fr and bertrand.pain@inserm.fr. Deadline is 14th of October.